

Yesterday evening the balance of opinion was definitely against the Holiwar route, and Hadji was so vehemently against it that he shook a man who said it was passable. This morning the Sahib with a guide and Abbas Ali examined the road. The Sahib thought it was passable. Abbas Ali said that the mules would slip off the shelving rocks. All day long there have been Lur visitors, some saying one thing, and some another, but a dream last night reconciled Hadji to take the route, and the Agha, after carefully weighing the risks all round has decided upon it.

All these pros and cons have been very interesting, and there have been various little incidents. I have had many visitors and "patients" from the neighboring camp, and among them three of the men who fired upon us.

The trifle of greatest magnitude was the illness of Aziz's mare, the result of a kick from *Screw*. She had an enormous swelling from knee to shoulder, could not sleep, and could hardly eat, and as she belongs partly to Isfandiyar Khan, Aziz Khan has been distracted about her, and has distracted me by constant appeals to me to open what seemed an abscess. I had not the courage for this, but it was done, and the cut bled so profusely that a pad, a stone, and a bandage had to be applied.

Unfortunately there was no relief from this venture, and Aziz "worried" me out of my tent three times in the night to look at the creature. Besides

that, he had  
about twenty ailing people outside the tent  
at 6 A.M.,  
always sending to me to "come at once!"

He was told to wash the wound, but he  
would do  
nothing till I went out with my  
appliances, very  
grudgingly, I admit. The sweet animal was  
indeed  
suffering, and the swelling was much  
increased. A  
number of men were standing round her,  
and when I